

light and hate obscurantism." There was a murmur of surprise and dissent from the intelligent throng, but as something more was necessary, one of the Brothers rose and observed that adult schools had first been established two years ago, and by the Superior of his own order! The laugh went round with the applause, and M. Pinet sought relief in calling for the "Marseillaise."—*Catholic Times*

On the occasion of the 800th anniversary of Peterborough Cathedral (England, June, 1881), an anniversary celebration was held in that historic ecclesiastical edifice.

The Bishop preached, and his words of tribute coming from a Protestant dignitary now in possession of a great cathedral founded by Catholic zeal, and endowed by Catholic munificence, form a striking contrast to the language usually emanating from similar sources.

He said: "They thanked God for those pious founders who had given them such a gift as that. The duty and responsibility it threw upon them was to care for these endowments and bequests, as trustees and guardians for the future, and to catch and cherish the spirit in which their forefathers reared such places—the spirit of the old monks whom those who spoke in shallow and wretched ignorance of the great monastic institutions of Europe and the west sometimes described as Monkish and Papist and the like, and talked of their profligacy and indolence.

"These men did not know that the monks of early days were the pioneers of Christianity, civilization and culture; but the Monk of the West was never the dreamy and contemplative hermit of the East who fled away to escape his duty in the sphere in which God had placed him [?]; but those were brave and self-denying men who went forth in the name of the Master, waging war with barbarism and heathenism, examples of learning and thoughtful devotion to higher and better things.

"It was in that spirit that men first built the minster at Peterborough and their successors raised the present noble pile, realizing in their wealth they were subject to human law and passions as people were now, so that 'he that had not from him should be taken away,' and when the spirits of the old founders died out of the minds of the inheritors the hand of the spoiler was laid, alas! upon the building, when a cruel and voluptuous tyrant laid waste the homes of learning and of religion throughout the country—..." *Catholic Union*.

What are the Catholics of France to expect of the new French Parliament? This question is not very difficult to answer. The foremost man of France, M. Gambetta, spoke very clearly on the subject in the speech which he addressed to his constituents of Belleville. He said: "I want freedom of association for all workmen, for professional societies, for trade unions, for groups of every kind; but for monks, no!" This, at least, is plain speaking. It is the principle on which despotism has been founded since the beginning of the world's history. Liberty, nay, license for ourselves and those who hold with us; proscription for all others. Besides prohibiting the societies of men who want to live and pray together, the entire property of the Church is to be confiscated, if M. Gambetta can have it his own way—and there is only just a small number of trimmers without backbone left in the French Senate who, by joining the Conservative party of that

body, can prevent the dictator from carrying any one of his plans. Within a few months we shall see him at work—for there is little doubt but what he will be called upon to preside over the next French ministry.

The grand duchy of Baden contains a Catholic population of one million, and a Protestant population of half a million. Yet the majority is not powerful enough to shake off the yoke under which it is kept by the minority. Baden has its May laws like Prussia, only they are not quite so harsh; in fact, a Government organ lately remarked that the Catholics had nothing whatever to complain of. Now the *Beobachter*, a Catholic paper, in replying to this, gives the following list of serious wrongs from which the Catholics labor in the grand duchy:

1. For the last fourteen years we have had no Archbishop.
2. The revenue of the Archiepiscopal See has been confiscated by the Government.
3. The seminaries and clerical schools have been suppressed.
4. All Catholic foundations for the poor have been taken away from us.
5. Ministrations by members of religious orders have been prohibited.
6. Catholic holidays have been abolished by the Government.
7. Many Catholic churches have been handed over to the Old Catholics.
8. Ten thousand pounds are set aside every year towards advancing the salaries of the Protestant clergy; not a penny is given in the same way to Catholic priests.
9. No Catholic priests are allowed to obtain a living who have been trained by the Jesuits.

Here are nine points, then, every one of which is full of serious injury to the Church and its ministers. And yet the Government of Baden have the coolness to say that the Catholic Church in the grand duchy has nothing to complain of.—*London Universe*.

When the old Romans attacked a city it was their custom to set up a white flag at the city gate. If the garrison surrendered while the white flag was up, the city was spared. If they did not surrender, a black flag was run up and every man was put to the sword.

In pictures and at missions given by some Fathers, we see a white cloth thrown over the arms of the cross. This is the signal of mercy, and denotes that through the death of Our Lord on the Cross the mercy of God is within our reach.

The Christian knows, says Bishop Ryan, that prayer is never in vain, that God always hears our prayers if we pray with right dispositions; we have his own divine, infallible word for it. If we do not receive what we deem a blessing we receive an equivalent; and God the all-seeing and all-wise, alone knows what is best. All things co-operate unto good to those who love him. Nor do we believe that the age of miracles is past. God is as powerful and as merciful now as before; his arm is not shortened nor is his loving mercy spent.